Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 198366 ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:EGY:CAKENNEDY:JD APPROVED BY NEA:NAV:LIOTES S/S-O:SVALERGA

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O R 052036Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECRETSTATE 198366

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID EFIN PEPR EG US SA

SUBJECT: ARAB AID TO EGYPT
ALEXANDRIA FOR EILTS, JERUSALEM FOR SAUNDERS FROM VELIOTES
R: CAIRO 18396 (NOTAL)

- 1. FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS: WE HAVE BEEN DOING SOME THINKING ON THE STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SAUDIS. YOU MAY WISH TO FIND OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH HAL SAUNDERS ABOUT THIS ISSUE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS RE OUR EFFORTS TO DISCUSS AID TO EGYPT MATTERS WITH THEM.
- 2. FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS: CAIRO REFTEL DISCUSSES IMPLICATIONS FOR EGYPT OF RECENT GODE-GOE MEETING IN KUWAIT. EGYPTIAN MIN ECON HAS DESCRIBED HIS VISIT WITH KUWAITIS AS 'DISCOURAGING. ARABS APPEAR UNWILLING SECRET

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TO PROVIDE EGYPT WITH SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO COVER ESTIMATED NEEDS THIS YEAR OF ABOUT \$650 MILLION.

INDENTIFIED NEW ARAB AID FOR THIS YEAR (\$250-300 MILLION)

EAVES UNCOVERED GAP OF \$350-400 MILLION. IF CURRENT

EGYPTIAN IMPORT LEVELS ARE MAINTAINED, FINANCIAL SHORT

FALL COULD FORCE EGYPT INTO EXPENSIVE SHORT-TERM COMMERCIAL

BORROWINGS WITH EVENTUAL RECURRENCE OF FINANCIAL CRISIS

CYCLE. PARA 9 OF REFTEL IS GOOD SUMMARY OF POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES. THERE IS HINT, HOWEVER, THAT SADAT EXPECTS

SAUDIS TO MAKE UP ANY FINANCIAL SHORT FALLS IN BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

3. REFTEL BEING REPEATED TO JERUSALEM AND ALEXANDRIA.

CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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To: ALEXANDRIA JERUSALEM

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